

# General outlines vision, sums up in “Four P’s”

By Maj. Brad McDonald  
Headquarters Pacific Air Forces

As Pacific Air Forces Commander, Gen. Paul Hester leads an organization of more than 55,000 Airmen – officer, enlisted and civilian. Recently, he outlined his vision and his priorities for the command, summed up in “Four P’s”:

- Posture our forces.
- Prepare and Provide immediate and responsive combat capability.
- Promote regional security and stability.
- People – our greatest asset.

Since taking command in July 2004, General Hester has logged more than 75,000 miles traveling throughout the command, visiting PACAF Airmen, praising them for an exceptional job, and spreading a consistent vision for the command’s future – firmly based on its mission.

The general outlined the PACAF mission in detail: to provide global vigilance, reach and power while defending the United States through air and space power in the Pacific. Specifically, PACAF provides warfighting capability to U.S. Pacific Command through integrated Expeditionary Air Force capabilities to defend the homeland, promote stability, deter aggression and swiftly defeat adversaries.

In keeping with that mission, General Hester’s vision for PACAF is to “bring the full power of America’s Air Force and the skill of its Airmen to promote peace and stability in the Asia-Pacific region,” and that will be accomplished by attending to the “Four P’s.”

According to the general, the posturing of PACAF forces is the first critical aspect of supporting PACOM. PACAF is organizing a Warfighting Headquarters construct to provide a standing Joint Forces Air Component Commander who will be able to seamlessly fit into any Joint Task

Force, as directed by the PACOM commander.

The WFHQ-Pacific structure will be a responsive and tailored command structure poised for any contingency, and it will demonstrate U.S. commitment to regional security as well. Other force-posturing initiatives on the horizon include the stationing of C-17s at both Hickam and Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, and the addition of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance/Strike assets at Andersen Air Base, Guam.

Preparing and Providing immediate and responsive combat capabilities is the second critical area of focus for General Hester, and to accomplish it, the command is leveraging the Aerospace Expeditionary Force concept in the Pacific region. The rotational bomber presence at Andersen AB, which has been in place since February 2003, is one example of that expanded capability. Additionally, exercise Resultant Fury ’05 in November 2004 demonstrated the ability to engage and sink moving maritime targets from the air.

Promoting regional security and stability, the general’s third priority, is accomplished in part through joint exercises and conferences with Asian-Pacific nations. The Pacific Air Chief’s Conference in September 2004 brought together senior Air Force leaders from countries throughout the region, and such exercises as Cooperative Cope Thunder, held in July 2004 in Alaska, foster improved interoperability with our allies.

“It’s through opportunities such as these that personal relationships are forged, which makes our future coalitions much stronger and more effective,” General Hester said.

Finally, people are our greatest asset. The general strives to ensure that Airmen understand their importance to the mission – and the importance of taking care of one another.



Maj. Jonathan Bradley, 15th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, briefs Gen. Paul Hester, Pacific Air Forces commander, about the functions of the 15th AMXS during his tour of Hickam Dec. 15.

The general recently shared some thoughts on the subject during his first Commander’s Call. “I’ve seen the excitement in the eyes of our Airmen throughout PACAF,” he said. “Our Airmen represent the best our country has to offer. They’re motivated, and they’re proudly accomplishing America’s business in this most important region.”

The command and the Air Force face two challenges in particular – suicide and sexual assault – which negatively impact quality of life, the general said.

Suicide is a “permanent solution to temporary problems at home,” the general said. “Now, more than ever, there’s a need for each of us to take care of those we work with day-in and day-out. I firmly believe we are

a great Air Force in large part because “Air Force families lead Air Force families,” and as such, each of us as Airmen, need to be involved and in tune with our fellow Airmen ... their families ... and their needs.”

Sexual assault is likewise unacceptable. “We cannot have an environment where our Airmen feel threatened,” the general said. “Airmen need to take care of each other, and it is up to you to ensure our people know and understand the limits of what’s appropriate and inappropriate behavior. This issue has the effect of tearing apart the fiber of our teamwork.”

Overall, Airman morale is high, and the general intends to keep it that way. PACAF’s Airmen play a critical role as the force structure undergoes transformation.

“PACAF’s mission is being met from Eielson in the northern region of Alaska to Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean,” he said. “PACAF Airmen are engaged in international, challenging missions ranging from tensions on the Korean Peninsula and the China-Taiwan Straits, to defending against transnational threats such as piracy, drug and human trafficking, all while supporting the Global War on Terrorism.”

As he looks toward the horizon, General Hester sees exciting and challenging times. “It is a privilege and blessing to serve as PACAF commander as we embark on the challenges ahead,” he said. “May God guard this command and guide the decisions each Airman has to make.”

# Portal allows Airmen to chat with friends, family

By Staff Sgt. C. Todd Lopez  
Air Force Print News

**WASHINGTON** – Airmen at home station or a deployed location can now send instant messages to their friends or loved ones whenever they have access to the Internet.

The Air Force recently implemented the “Friends and Family Instant Messenger” program, available through the Air Force Portal. Now, besides using the system to connect with other Airmen on work-related projects, users can chat online with non-Air Force friends or family members, said Lt. Col. Joe Besselman, the program director for global combat support systems at Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass.

“There was a dual purpose for (the instant messenger),” Colonel Besselman said. “Instant messaging has been a commercialization and socialization phenomenon in the commercial sector. Air Force leaders wanted to give that to Airmen, and to have that available in their work unit so they could chat with one another socially and also accomplish the mission. They also wanted to give deployed (Airmen) the capability to talk with their families back home.”

Air Force Special Operations Command was chosen to debut this capability for the Air Force following a two-month test period. Lt. Gen. Michael Wooley, AFSOC commander, notified the command’s Airmen in his holiday video, available

through the Air Force Portal.

“I’m proud to introduce a new Air Force Portal real-time chat tool to help those deployed reach back and talk to their loved ones anytime, anyplace,” General Wooley said. “We honor your sacrifice, and this is just one thing that we can do to support you.”

Under the new program, Airmen “sponsor” friends or family onto the portal by entering their e-mail addresses into the system. The portal then generates e-mails inviting them to log on and get their own specially configured account. Airmen can have up to five people added to the system, Colonel Besselman said.

“Five people is an adjustable number,” he said. “Based on the feedback ... and the scaling require-

ments of the infrastructure, we could change that number.”

The Air Force uses a commercially designed real-time chat program to power the program. The software, while tailored to the Air Force’s specific needs, is also in use by the Army, the Navy, and the Department of Homeland Security. The software does not need to be downloaded to users’ computers; it is entirely Web-based, Colonel Besselman said.

“If you are using a modern browser, that’s all you need to use the chat,” he said.

To use the online chat, Airmen first need to get an Air Force Portal account. To sign up, visit <https://www.my.af.mil>.

## BASIC PAY—EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2005

Pay Grade	Cumulative Years of Service														
	2 or less	Over 2	Over 3	Over 4	Over 6	Over 8	Over 10	Over 12	Over 14	Over 16	Over 18	Over 20	Over 22	Over 24	Over 26
O-10	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	12,963.00	13,026.60	13,297.50	13,769.40
O-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	11,337.90	11,501.10	11,737.20	12,149.10
O-8	8,022.30	8,285.10	8,459.40	8,508.30	8,725.50	9,089.40	9,173.70	9,519.00	9,618.00	9,915.30	10,345.50	10,742.40	11,007.60	11,007.60	11,007.60
O-7	6,666.00	6,975.60	7,119.00	7,233.00	7,439.10	7,642.50	7,878.30	8,113.50	8,349.00	9,089.40	9,714.60	9,714.60	9,714.60	9,714.60	9,763.80
O-6	4,940.70	5,427.90	5,784.00	5,784.00	5,805.90	6,054.90	6,087.90	6,087.90	6,433.80	7,045.50	7,404.60	7,763.40	7,967.70	8,174.10	8,575.50
O-5	4,118.70	4,639.80	4,961.10	5,021.40	5,221.50	5,341.80	5,605.50	5,799.00	6,048.60	6,431.10	6,613.20	6,793.20	6,997.50	6,997.50	6,997.50
O-4	3,553.80	4,113.90	4,388.40	4,449.60	4,704.30	4,977.60	5,317.50	5,582.70	5,766.60	5,872.20	5,933.70	5,933.70	5,933.70	5,933.70	5,933.70
O-3	3,124.50	3,542.10	3,823.20	4,168.20	4,367.70	4,586.70	4,728.60	4,962.00	5,083.20	5,083.20	5,083.20	5,083.20	5,083.20	5,083.20	5,083.20
O-2	2,699.40	3,074.70	3,541.20	3,660.90	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20	3,736.20
O-1	2,343.60	2,439.00	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10	2,948.10
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,168.20	4,367.70	4,586.70	4,728.60	4,962.00	5,158.50	5,271.00	5,424.60	5,424.60	5,424.60	5,424.60	5,424.60
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,660.90	3,736.20	3,855.30	4,055.70	4,211.10	4,326.60	4,326.60	4,326.60	4,326.60	4,326.60	4,326.60	4,326.60
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,948.10	3,148.80	3,264.90	3,383.70	3,500.70	3,660.90	3,660.90	3,660.90	3,660.90	3,660.90	3,660.90	3,660.90
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,548.20	5,738.40	5,929.20	6,121.20
W-4	3,228.60	3,473.40	3,573.30	3,671.40	3,840.30	4,007.10	4,176.30	4,341.00	4,511.70	4,779.00	4,950.00	5,117.40	5,290.80	5,461.80	5,636.40
W-3	2,948.40	3,071.70	3,197.40	3,238.80	3,371.10	3,522.30	3,721.80	3,918.90	4,128.30	4,285.50	4,442.10	4,509.30	4,578.90	4,730.10	4,881.30
W-2	2,593.50	2,741.70	2,871.30	2,965.50	3,046.20	3,268.20	3,438.00	3,564.00	3,687.00	3,771.30	3,842.40	3,977.40	4,111.50	4,247.40	4,247.40
W-1	2,290.20	2,477.70	2,603.10	2,684.40	2,900.40	3,030.90	3,146.40	3,275.40	3,360.90	3,438.30	3,564.30	3,659.70	3,659.70	3,659.70	3,659.70
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,901.20	3,989.70	4,101.00	4,232.40	4,364.10	4,575.90	4,755.00	4,943.70	5,231.70
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,193.50	3,334.80	3,422.10	3,527.10	3,640.50	3,845.40	3,949.20	4,125.90	4,224.00	4,465.20
E-7	2,220.00	2,423.10	2,515.80	2,638.80	2,734.50	2,899.50	2,992.20	3,084.60	3,249.60	3,332.40	3,410.70	3,458.70	3,620.40	3,725.10	3,990.00
E-6	1,920.30	2,112.60	2,205.90	2,296.50	2,391.00	2,604.30	2,687.10	2,779.20	2,859.90	2,888.70	2,908.20	2,908.20	2,908.20	2,908.20	2,908.20
E-5	1,759.50	1,877.10	1,967.70	2,060.70	2,205.30	2,329.80	2,421.60	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70	2,450.70
E-4	1,612.80	1,695.60	1,787.10	1,877.70	1,957.80										
E-3	1,456.20	1,547.70	1,641.00	1,641.00	1,641.00										
E-2	1,384.50	1,384.50	1,384.50	1,384.50	1,384.50										
E-1 4 mos +	1,235.10	1,235.10	1,235.10	1,235.10	1,235.10										
E-1 4 mos	1,142.70														

### NOTES:

1. While serving as JCS/Vice JCS, CNO, CMC, Army/Air Force CS, commander of a unified or specified combatant command, basic pay is \$15,148.40.
2. Basic pay for an O-7 to O-10 is limited by Level III of the Executive Schedule which is \$12,433.20. Basic pay for O-6 and below is limited by Level V of the Executive Schedule which is \$10,950.00.
3. Applicable to O-1 to O-3 with at least 4 years & 1 day of active duty or more than 1460 points as a warrant and/or enlisted member. See DoDFMR for more detailed explanation on who is eligible for this special basic pay rate.